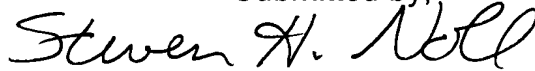


## REMARKS

In the Office Action dated September 17, 2003, a typographical error in claim 3 was noted, which has been corrected. Claim 3 as originally filed did not include this typographical error, and apparently this typographical occurred in the transcription of claim 3 for presentation in the previously-submitted Amendment "A".

Claims 1-3, 5-9 and 18 were stated to be allowable, and claims 10-17 were rejected based on prior art references. Claims 10-17 had been cancelled, and accordingly the remaining claims are in condition for allowance. Early reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Submitted by,



(Reg. 28,982)

SCHIFF, HARDIN & WAITE

**CUSTOMER NO. 26574**

Patent Department

6600 Sears Tower

233 South Wacker Drive

Chicago, Illinois 60606

Telephone: 312/258-5790

Attorneys for Applicants.